

Minister Dowers announces
change in traffic laws;
Installs Traffic Commission pg 3

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Friday, March 26, 2010

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At Crystal Casino the machines are going crazy

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Crystal Casino is glad to make so many patrons happy day after day. It seems the slot machines at the two casinos, Crystal and Seaport Casino are going crazy giving away lots of winnings. John Collins of North Dakota-USA, who was playing on the 'Chof Sun Doa' machine got the perfect combination to win US\$ 6,100 in just 15 minutes. He received his winnings from Crystal Casino associate Edseline Wouters. Another happy winner is Kenneth Heckman of the USA. He played on the 'Triple Red White Blue' machine and got a red 7, white 7 and a triple star combination. His winnings: US\$ 3,750. Crystal Casino once more proves to be the leader in the casino market with more players and giving away more prizes.



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Aruba cops: No bones of missing teen found in sea

ORANJESTAD, Aruba (AP) — Police found nothing but rocks and coral while searching underwater for the remains of missing U.S. teen Natalee Holloway, the Aruba prosecutors' office said yesterday.

Police dove several times on Wednesday and Sunday after an American couple turned over an underwater photo of what they believed might have been her remains, said spokeswoman Ann An-

gela. The couple were diving while on vacation in Aruba last year.

Divers didn't find any items in the photo, Angela said.

"We looked at it seriously," she said. "It did not prove successful."

The 18-year-old from Mountain Brook, Alabama, disappeared while on vacation in Aruba in 2005 and was last seen leaving a bar with Joran van der Sloot on the final night

of a high school graduation trip.

Van der Sloot has been detained several times, but Aruban prosecutors say they lack evidence to charge him.

Police believe the couple from Manheim, Pennsylvania, likely zoomed in on some coral, giving the impression that it might have been a skull and bones, Angela said.

The search was one of many launched to find Holloway.

New search starting for Air France black boxes

RECIFE, Brazil (AP) — The lead investigator of last year's mysterious Air France jet crash that killed more than 200 people off the coast of Brazil said yesterday that he is hopeful a third search for debris and flight and data recorders will be successful.

The 30-day search, to begin Sunday, will involve an area 10 times smaller than previous efforts, Jean-Paul Troadec, chief of the BEA French investigation agency, told reporters at a news conference in northeastern Brazil.

In addition, a collaborative effort by scientists, including from the U.S.-based Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution in Massachusetts, has helped reconstruct the trajectory of the Airbus 330's debris and the time the wreckage was found, giving investigators a better idea of where to look, Troadec said.

"We think we have a good chance of finding the wreckage," he said.

Officials say that locating the flight data recorders is crucial, since the 1,000 pieces of

wreckage already recovered have provided no concrete information as to what caused the jet to crash on June 1, killing all 228 people aboard.

The data recorders — the so-called "black boxes" — contain cockpit recordings and various readings from the aircraft.

Troadec said the investigation so far has "shown that without finding the recorders that this investigation could never be conclusive and this accident could remain largely unexplained."

The latest search will employ two boats, one of which will carry three sonar-equipped robot submarines, and the other of which will use on-board sonar to scour the 770-square mile (2,000-square kilometer) area.

Troadec said the wreckage is likely located on a rough, mountainous seabed, perhaps as many as 13,100 feet (4,000 meters) under the sea.

William Waldock, who teaches air-crash investigation at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University in Prescott, Ari-

zona, said that even if a main debris field is found, it does not mean the data recorders can be located.

The search will be jointly financed by Airbus and Air France, and comes after original search efforts last year that cost about euro 9 million. The U.S. Navy and the National Transportation Safety Board will help, along with private companies and accident experts from Britain, Germany, Russia and Brazil.

Stunned passengers on Caribbean flight witness volcano erupting

Vacationers flying on a plane to St Lucia were stunned to look out their windows and see a huge volcano erupting in front of their eyes, it was reported yesterday.

Passengers on the Boeing 737 were amazed to see a plume of ash hurled into the sky by the explosion.

They rushed to the side of the jet to photograph the cloud from the Soufriere Hills volcano on Caribbean island Montserrat.

Mary Jo Penkala, 49, was flying to the Caribbean from Toronto, Canada, with partner Barry Steinfeld, when she saw the staggering sight and took a picture.

She said: "We saw the volcano in all its glory."

Passengers told how the pilot had simply announced over the intercom: "Ladies and gentlemen, if you look to the left of the plane, you'll see a volcano erupting."

After a long period of dormancy, the Soufriere Hills volcano became active in 1995 and has continued to erupt ever since.



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Anti-Chavez TV channel owner arrested in Venezuela

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP) — The owner of Venezuela's only television channel that remains critical of President Hugo Chavez was arrested yesterday, spurring concerns among rights activists of a widening government crackdown aimed at silencing critics.

Attorney General Luisa Ortega said a warrant was issued for the arrest of Guillermo Zuloaga, owner of the TV channel Globovision, for remarks that were deemed "offensive" to the president.

Zuloaga said that military intelligence agents detained him at an airport in the northwestern state of Falcon.

Ortega said prosecutors are investigating Zuloaga for statements he allegedly made during a recent Inter American Press Association meeting in

the Dutch Caribbean island of Aruba, where media executives from across the Americas criticized Chavez's government for limiting freedom of expression.

Pro-Chavez lawmaker Manuel Villalba urged prosecutors on Wednesday to investigate Zuloaga for allegedly saying that Venezuela's government is cracking down on its critics and purportedly commenting that it was a shame that a short-lived 2002 coup against Chavez failed.

"He must assume his responsibility," Villalba told state-run Radio Nacional.

The arrest came three days after opposition politician Oswaldo Alvarez Paz was detained for remarks made on a Globovision talk show on March 8.

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Minister Dowers announces change in traffic laws

Installs Traffic Commission



Inspector Muller and Commander Richardson

Aruba's Minister of Justice and Education Arthur Dowers, in presence of members of the Traffic Commission, Inspector Muller and Commander Richardson, announced some changes in the traffic law. This law will go to the Advisory Board for approval.

Minister Dowers gave a short explanation of the changes. Senior citizens and the physical, hearing, or visual impaired will get a sticker to put on their cars so they can park in special spaces that is destined for them.

At present there are parking spaces for that purpose, but not everyone respects those parking spaces. In the near future, all those who park in a place destined for senior citizens and the impaired will get a fine.

Children under 12 years must sit in the backseat of the

car wearing their seatbelt.

People driving a quadracer must have a helm on. There will be hefty fines for those not complying with this law.

When crossing a road, always use the crosswalk or the place destined for it. Crossing a road at any spot will be sanctioned. Classic cars also must comply with certain conditions to be able to drive on the road.

It is not allowed to park on the sidewalks or on places where it is forbidden to do so. There will be a fine and the car will be towed by the police. The cost of towing and storage of the car has to be paid for by the owner. The road on the Sasakiweg near House of Cheng will be become a one-way road. This will be temporary until traffic lights are installed or other arrangements are made.



Minister Arthur Dowers

Motorists who move the barricades will be severely sanctioned. Speeding, with the consequence of causing accidents with fatalities, will be scrutinized and everyone surpassing the speed limit will be fined.

Minister Dowers explained that there will be more traffic lights and traffic signal poles.

The traffic Commission working on these changes will continue functioning to advise the government in future matters. Until now they did a tremendous job and will certainly come with more recommendations for the safety of our traffic.

Minister Dowers expressed his gratitude towards them for a job well done.

Minister Sevinger installs commission to process specific illegal cases



Minister Benny Sevinger

During a recent inquiry session, Minister of Infrastructure, Environment and

Integration (under which DIMAS resorts), Mr. Benny Sevinger explained that Dutch Europeans will not be deported after 180 days, as was the case before. The management is now more flexible in this matter. DIMAS will also be more lenient with Dutch pensioners living here. Minister Sevinger stressed that Aruba is a small island with limitations.

The minister also commented on the amnesty for a small group of illegals. They have been living here for many years now and most of them are children living with their parents. They have been living here for 10 or 20

years, were schooled here and now are having problems getting a job or going abroad to continue their studies because their residence papers were never fixed. For those illegals Minister Sevinger installed a special commission consisting of DIMAS representatives, the Ministry of Justice and the Department of Integration.

This commission already has some 90 cases to process. After evaluating the cases, the commission will give the government advice on how to handle the cases further. At the end Minister Sevinger emphasized that for the time being, with the exception of a few professions, the petitions for residence and work permits will not be processed until July 1, 2010.

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With the help of the government and foundation 'Adopt an Addict' More addicts on the road to rehabilitation



The government of Aruba, in its efforts to minimize the amount of addicts on the streets, is working together with the foundation 'Adopt an Addict' to give those addicts a chance to turn around their lives. Volunteers talk to the addicts to encourage them to get on the road of rehabilitation. It is not an easy task to convince the addicts, but the foundation has a lot of experience and is giving the government a helping hand. The government for its part, between the Ministry of Health and Ministry of Social Affairs, has funds available to cover the expenses to send addicts to 'Hogares Crea' in the Dominican Republic.

Hogar Crea is an international institution, founded in Puerto Rico to help drug addicts cut their drug habit. In 1968, Jose Juan Garcia founded "Hogar Crea." The word "Crea" means for the re-education of the addict and the community.

Those who enter the program do not have to pay a fee, but must agree to the program's strict rules. Breaking a drug habit is not easy and those who enter the program must adopt new habits which are necessary for recovery. They must go to church on Sundays and do community services. The program is not financed by the government.

Hogares Crea has over 152 facilities worldwide including in the Dominican Republic.

A large group of Aruba's addicts has already left to Hogares Crea in the Dominican Republic and are on the road to rehabilitate their life. More addicts are now willing to join the program.

Photo shows Minister of Sports and Health, Richard Visser saying goodbye to a group of addicts on their way to Hogares Crea in the Dominican Republic.

Fun activities for children at Aruba National Library

ORANJESTAD – The Aruba National Library organizes different activities for children mainly to stimulate reading. There are afternoons with story reading, book discussions, drawing, singing, puppetry and games.

Children between the ages of 5 and 9 are invited to come and have an entertaining afternoon together on Tuesdays

from 3:00 to 4:00 p.m. at the National Library in Oranjestad. Contact person is Mrs. Lillian Freytas. All kids are welcome to assist for free

Next week's theme - March 30 - is Easter. An Antraco/Samson bookstore representative will be present to do handicraft with the children. This will be from 3:00 to 4:30 p.m. and contribution is Afl. 5.

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Museum is home to world's largest bunny collection

PASADENA, California (AP) – It started 18 years ago with an endearment and a plush bunny.

Today, Steve Lubanski and Candace Frazee live in The Bunny Museum, where they have the world's largest rabbit collection with more than 26,000 items. Guinness World Records dubbed them the largest in 1999 when there were only 8,437 pieces in the house.

Frazee counts and catalogs the collection and keeps track of visitors — hovering around 16,000.

The couple are surrounded by rabbits, from wallpaper to wind chimes, phones to faucets and sheets to screen savers. Thousands of items are in storage because there is no space left.

Erin Seeherman, 24, was visitor No. 15,976. She came from Philadelphia with pictures of her bunnies, Zeke and Nora, food for Frazee's rabbits and plans to buy lots of souvenirs at the museum gift shop.

"I was hoping it would be trinket heaven," she said.

Lubanski, 52, and Frazee, 53, met at a singles seminar in 1992. She called him "Honey Bunny" and he gave her a stuffed rabbit for Valentine's

Day.

In the beginning, they gave each other bunny gifts on holidays. Then every day. Sometimes dozens a day. At the reception to their 1994 wedding, he dressed in a bunny costume; they did the bunny hop and ate carrot cake.

In 1998, they opened the museum, calling it the "hoppiest place in the world." Admission is free, by appointment only.

The couple have seven real bunnies and continue to expand their collection at antique, novelty and out-of-town stores. Even when they go on vacation, there are bunny influences — like the Rabbit Ridge Winery in Paso Robles or the Jackrabbit Trading Post in Joseph City, Ariz.

This time of year is like Christmas, because Easter makes stores nearly as bunny happy as they are.

The most asked-after item in the museum is an Elvis Parsley pitcher, Frazee said. But the most asked question? "How do you dust?"

She used to do it all herself, but finally hired a housekeeper to help two days a week.

"But the truth is," she jokes, "we don't mind dust bunnies at the museum."

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President of the C.N.O. Mr. Richard Maxwell attends the 38th R.N.B meeting at St. Kitts & Nives

Recently, Mr. Richard Maxwell, president of the Caribbean Nurses Organization (C.N.O.) attended the 38th meeting of the Executive Education Committee and the Seventh Practice Committees of the Regional Nursing Body (RNB), organized by a committee of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) in St. Kitts & Nives.

The meeting focussed mainly on the program all governments who are members of CARICOM, must implement in 2011 to safeguard and guarantee a well balanced curriculum and criteria to educate nurses in the Caribbean. In keeping with current trends, the meeting addressed such issues as the regional examination for nurse registration, the accreditation of nursing schools in the region, developing a regional framework for nursing and midwifery for 2010 to 2013, programmes to address the care of the elderly and developing curriculum in terms of the management of HIV/AIDS.

During the meeting dr. Dorothy Powell of Duke University (nursing school) presented a report on an advanced study on the care of the elderly in the Caribbean called: 'Comprehensive Community-Based Model for Care of the Elderly' which made an impressive impact on the participants.

At the end of the meeting it was concluded that the HIV/AIDS issue will stay in the hands of the government. Also on the agenda was the actual situation in Haiti. The



Photo shows, left to right, Mr. Richard Maxwell RN, president of C.N.O.; Minister of Health and Social & Cultural Affairs, Mrs. Marcella Liburd; Dr. Leila McWhinney-Dehany, Chair Regional Nursing Body; Mrs. Sanda Plummer program president and CARICOM secretary; and Mrs. Henriette Douglas-Christmas Principal Nursing Officer of St. Kitts & Nives.

discussion focussed on how R.N.B. and nurses in the Caribbean can help Haiti not only with material but also with nursing teams who will assist their colleagues in Haiti for a period. On this topic Aruba gave its input. Mr. Maxwell already had visited Haiti at the end of 2008 and worked with the nursing organization there, and had information on how to help with the process to assist nurses in Haiti in an efficient way, guaranteeing that the Haiti nursing organization is Aruba's contact to be able to give assistance to relief the pain and burden they are now carrying.

In July 2010 R.N.B. will have a general meeting in the Cayman Islands.



US slave ship replica sails into Old Havana harbor



HAVANA (AP) — A U.S. replica of the 19th-century Cuban slave ship "Amistad" glided through the millpond-calm waters of Havana Bay on Thursday, a reminder of the countries' intertwined past and a gesture toward a brighter shared future.

Built in Connecticut, the black-hulled, two-masted recreation of the schooner, whose name means "Friendship," flew the American and Cuban flags — as well as the blue flag of the United Nations. It was one of the few times a ship under the Stars and Stripes has called on the island in 51 years of estrangement since Fidel Castro took power. As it neared shore, the crew of 19 Americans lowered the U.S. flag and ran Cuba's up the main mast.

"It feels like a promise fulfilled," said Gregory Belanger, the CEO and president of Amistad America Inc., the nonprofit organization that owns and operates the ship. "It was built here originally. Its sail is from here. Now it is here."

U.S. movie director Steven Spielberg made the story of the original Amistad famous with his 1997 film of the same name. The ship set sail from Havana carrying a cargo of captives from Sierra Leone in 1839. The Africans rebelled, commandeering the ship on a zigzag course up the U.S. coast until it was finally seized off the coast of Long Island.

The captured Africans became an international cause for abolitionists, and their fate was finally decided in 1841, when John Quincy Adams argued their case before the Supreme Court, which granted them freedom.

It was an inspirational ending to an otherwise sinis-

ter historical period — and some who helped bring the Amistad replica to this country hope its simple arrival could signal hope for improving a half-century and counting of frigid U.S.-Cuba relations.

"If one of the two sides, either the U.S. or Cuba, had not wanted this to occur it wouldn't have," said Steve Schwadron, a consultant on the Amistad project and former chief of staff for Rep. William Delahunt. The Massachusetts Democrat has long worked to ease U.S.-Cuba relations and reached out to the State Department to make officials aware of the Amistad's proposal.

Thursday commemorated the day, March 25, 1807, when the British Parliament outlawed the slave trade. It also marks the 10th anniversary of the replica's rechristening. As the Amistad took to the seas a decade ago, its builders at Connecticut's Mystic Seaport vowed to get it to Cuba's capital or bust.

It first arrived on the island Tuesday at the port of Matanzas, 60 miles (95 kilometers) east of Havana. Thursday's mostly calm, blue-gray waves made for smooth sailing past the Morro Castle, a Spanish fort built in 1859 that guards the sea entrance to Havana. The Amistad then hugged the storied waterfront, passing the iconic Hotel Nacional before reaching a modern cruise ship port on the edge of the city's historic harbor district.

Using high technology hidden in its wooden frame and rigging, the new Amistad has crossed the Atlantic and wended its way through the Caribbean since 2007 as part of the United Nations and UNESCO's Slave Route Project.



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Skydive Aruba will whisk you away to the adventure of a lifetime!



While laying on Aruba's beaches and watching the waves, one might reflect on all the adventures they would like to experience in this life, but are perhaps too timid to try. Snorkeling and SCUBA might certainly be on the list, but don't miss the opportunity to try something you will remember all your life. It is a rush that will stay with you long after you have landed, conducted in such a way as to completely insure your safety and with little effort or complex details to learn.

Only a few short months ago Aruba's newest attraction, Air Adventures, owned by Rick and Hornsby, owners of Florida's oldest drop zone, opened their doors with Sky Dive Aruba. Located just off the beach north of the Marriott Aruba Resort, they promise to whisk you away on the adventure of a lifetime-literally!

Skydive Aruba's fully certified instructors John Luvera, who currently holds ratings as USPA Coach, AFF Instructor and Pro and Keith McBeth, also AFF certified and a fifteen-year skydiving veteran, do all the work, and clients simply enjoy the ride. The jump is done wearing tandem gear, so you are firmly attached to your guide, whose expertise will bring you in right on point



for a perfect landing.

We caught Lynn Koerner of Boston Mass and Nicole Alexander of Spokane, Washington as they caromed in from 10,000 ft with John and Keith "pulling the strings."

"THAT WAS AWESOME!!!!!" exclaimed Nicole, "I'm ready to do it again, right now!"

The Skydive Aruba experience takes about 90 minutes, accommodating no more than

two clients, each with their own guide. Not only are you treated to the most amazing view of Aruba and the surrounding turquoise waters of the Caribbean, but John records it all with a handycam, and you can immediately relive the experience and purchase the video to show your friends and family back home; a very personalized and thrilling memento of your island vacation.

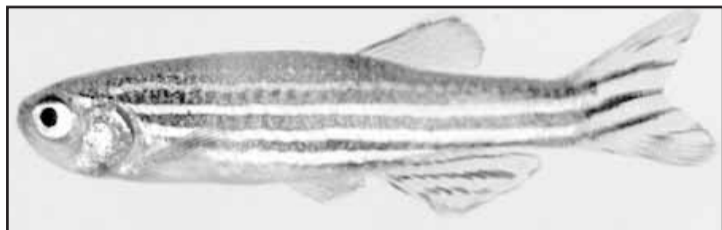
THE MORNING NEWS team just happened to catch Stephen, proprietor of Salt & Pepper Restaurant in the act of purchasing a tandem skydive gift certificate as a reward for a hard-working employee. He confessed he was so thrilled with his experience the week before, he could think of no better gift to give.

Kara, who packs the chutes, heartily agrees. A veteran of one of the busiest drop zones in California, she is accustomed to packing up to 250 parachutes a day, so customers can feel confident. "I went on a dive with a friend years ago and was hooked. It is a very addicting sport; once you have tried it you will want to do it forever."

For more information and reservations, contact Air Adventures at telephone 735-0654, or visit their website: www.skydivearuba.com.

Science/Tech

Tiny fish might help humans fix damaged hearts



When zebrafish loses cardiac tissue, it simply regrows it, scientists say

An ability to regrow damaged or missing heart tissue makes the lowly zebrafish an ideal model for discovering new ways to repair human hearts, scientists say.

When a part of its heart is removed, the tiny zebrafish is a bit sluggish for a few days, but then appears normal within a month. This remarkable heart repair is achieved by differentiated cardiac muscle cells called cardiomyocytes -- not stem cells, but mature cells that normally supply the contractile force of the heart.

"What the results of our study show is that Mother Nature utilizes other ways besides going all the way back to pluripotent stem cells to regenerate tissues and organs," Juan Carlos Izpisua Belmonte, a professor in the Gene Expression Laboratory at the Salk Institute for Biological Studies in California, said in a news release.

The study appears in the March 25 issue of the journal *Nature*.

Prior to heart failure, dam-

aged mammal heart muscle cells enter a state called hibernation, in which they stop contracting in an effort to survive. Mammal heart cell hibernation is significant, said study first author Chris Jopling, a postdoctoral fellow at the Center of Regenerative Medicine in Barcelona, Spain.

"During heart regeneration in the zebrafish we found that cardiomyocytes displayed structural changes similar to those observed in hibernating cardiomyocytes," Jopling said in the news release. "Because of these similarities, we hypothesize that hibernating mammalian cardiomyocytes may represent cells that are attempting to proliferate."

"This idea fits nicely with the findings from a number of groups -- that forced expression of cell cycle regulators can induce cardiomyocyte proliferation in mammals. Maybe all they need is a bit of push in the right direction," Jopling said.

Researchers are looking for factors that supply that push.

Gameworld: A virtual farm turns new ground for game developers



SAN FRANCISCO – A virtual farm attracting up to 83 million aspiring farmers monthly has video game developers scrambling to find ways to plough the booming popularity of games on social networks.

Sites like Facebook, which has an estimated 400 million users, and MySpace, with about 100 million users, are driving a social gaming craze that was in the spotlight at this month's 2010 Game Developers Conference (GDC).

Heiko Hubertz, CEO of browser-based games portal Bigpoint.com which is home to over 100 million gamers, said online game experiences were very solitary in the past.

"Now through social network gaming and browser-based games portals, gamers of all types can share their experiences and compete against each other in original experiences like 'Poisonville,' as well as licensed content like the upcoming 'Battlestar Galactica Online,'" said Hubertz.

Once-small companies like Zynga, Bigpoint, Playdom, and Playfish, which Electronic Arts bought for \$400 million last year, are finding exponential growth by creating free-to-play casual games that encourage players to get their friends involved.

This viral approach to gaming is introducing a whole new audience to videogames.

"The 800 pound gorilla in social games is Zynga's 'Farm Ville,' which has over 82 million people worldwide playing at least once a month and over 32 million people playing daily," said Justin Davis, founder and editor of SocialGameCentral.com.

"FarmVille," which has been available as an application on Facebook since June last year, involves managing

a virtual farm by planting, growing and harvesting crops and raising livestock.

Zynga, which has created five of the 10 most popular social games, also attracts an audience of 30 million monthly and 9 million daily with "Cafe World," its second most popular game.

Davis said overall Zynga has over 230 million active players across multiple social networks.

Even MySpace, which announced a new MySpace Games experience at this month's conference aiming to encourage game makers to cater to its online audience, can attract over 10 million players with games like Playdom's "Mobsters" and Zynga's "Mafia Wars."

About one-third of MySpace users currently play games.

Another US Internet company pulls back in China

WASHINGTON – Two U.S. companies that sell Internet addresses to Web sites said Wednesday they had stopped registering new domain names in China because the Chinese government has begun demanding pictures and other identification documents from their customers.

One of the domain name companies, Go Daddy Inc., announced its change in policy at a congressional hearing that was largely devoted to Google Inc.'s announcement Monday that it will no longer censor Internet search results in China.

Christine Jones, executive vice president and general counsel of Go Daddy, said the company's decision was not a reaction to Google but instead reflects its concern about the security of its customers and "the chilling effect" of the new Chinese government requirements.

Michael Pachter, videogame analyst for Wedbush Morgan Securities, said social gaming has grown from around \$600 million in total revenue in 2008 to \$1 billion in 2009 and expects social gaming to bring in around \$1.6 billion this year.

"The growth rate should remain very high at around 40 percent each of the next three years, so my guess at 2011 is around \$2.2 billion, 2012 at \$3 billion 2013 at more than \$4 billion," said Pachter.

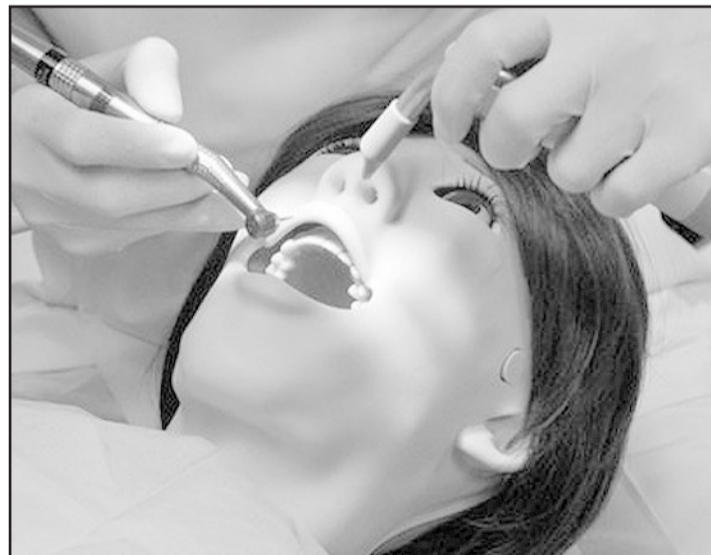
While most of this gaming revenue is currently focused on the sale of virtual in-game items, called micro-transactions, Pachter forecasts there will be more advertising revenue and data mining in the future.

Game developers are introducing new technologies that could help grow social games even further.

Vivox, which provides voice chat services for massively multi-player online games like Nexon's "Combat Arms" and CCP Games' "EVE Online," is working with developer Hive7 to allow Facebook gamers to talk to one another while playing titles like the medieval strategy game "Knighthood."

"People will be able to play social games as if they were at the same table," said Rob Seaver, CEO of Vivox.

Do they fear needles also?



A dentist from the Showa University Dentistry School demonstrates treating a robot named Hanako Showa in Tokyo. Doctors and robotics researchers have unveiled a robot that happily goes under the drill for orthodontics students and can also express pain, roll her eyes and even drool like a real patient.

HEALTH

Beat the sweaty armpit blues



Are sweaty armpit stains the bane of your existence? Here are some solutions for men who suffer from excessive underarm perspiration.

Working anywhere other than a thoroughly air-conditioned room is sluggish torture and venturing outdoors during daylight hours is sheer foolhardiness, but the most embarrassing effects are those damp and clammy half-moons of perspiration that stain the armpits of your shirt on most days.

For some guys it doesn't even take a particularly steamy day to bring on these unsightly underarm sweats. The mere thought of having to give a presentation in a boardroom full of bosses ramps up the humidity under their armpits to levels rivalling those of a rainforest.

So what are the most effective ways to control excessive underarm sweating?

First steps

Find an anti-perspirant that works for you. Make sure it says anti-perspirant on

the dispenser. A simple deodorant is only good at masking the smell, but won't actually stop you from sweating.

Drink wheat grass — it contains a lot of Vitamin B, which can help reduce sweat production.

Wear a cotton undershirt which will mop up any sweat before it reaches your shirt on top. Try loose fitting tops that allow air to circulate under your armpits and go for light colours which tend to show up the stains less obviously.

Bath or shower regularly using anti-bacterial soap and don't wear clothes you've sweated in previously.

Certain foods and beverages, including garlic, chilli, onions, red meat, fried food, coffee and alcohol, may stimulate sweating. Avoid them whenever you can.

If you tend to sweat excessively in situations that make you nervous or anxious, treat the cause of the problem. Try calming activities such as yoga, meditation or listening

to soothing music.

Some people swear by rubbing vinegar, baby powder, lemon juice or rubbing alcohol into their armpits, while others bath in water mixed with a few cans of tomato juice, but we're not so sure about these home remedies.

For more persistently sweaty armpits

If these measures don't deliver results, you may be suffering from a medical condition known as axillary hyperhidrosis. Consult your doctor, who may:

Suggest a prescription anti-perspirant containing aluminium chloride hexahydrate solution or gel.

Prescribe one of several oral medications to reduce sweating. Beware that these may cause side effects such as a dry mouth and eyes and urine retention.

Recommend iontophoresis, a medical procedure in which a weak electric charge, delivered through sponge electrodes attached to your underarms, transports a chemical into the skin which will stop sweat glands from secreting sweat without damaging them. It may cause mild pain, but can be quite effective.

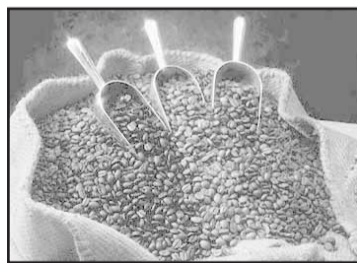
Bring on the big guns

More severe cases may be treated by more intrusive and expensive methods such as:

Botox injections, which need to be repeated every 6 to 16 months; or

Surgical treatments, including underarm liposuction and removal of sweat-inducing nerves or sweat glands.

Coming Soon: A Low-Heartburn Coffee?



For millions of coffee-lovers with delicate stomachs, scientists may have found a way to enjoy an eye-opening cup of java without gastrointestinal discomfort.

European researchers studying stomach-irritating chemicals in coffee have unexpectedly found one that actually inhibits acid production in the stomach.

"The major import of our work is that it provides scientific evidence that you can

produce a more stomach-friendly coffee by varying the processing technology," said study author Veronika Somoza, professor and chair of the Research Platform of Molecular Food Science at the University of Vienna, Austria.

The finding offers the promise that coffee makers can produce a blend that will be easier on the tummy, Somoza said.

The results were to be presented Sunday at the American Chemical Society's annual meeting in San Francisco.

The scientists looked at coffee's effect on human stomach cells using a variety of preparations, including dark-roast, regular roast, decaffeinated and stomach-friendly. Instead of one single element, they identified a

mixture of compounds — caffeine, catechols and N-alkanoly-5-hydroxytryptamides — as the chemicals in coffee that promote the production of stomach acid.

But a fourth chemical, N-methylpyridinium, which is more common in dark roasts, such as espresso and French roast blends, was found to inhibit acid.

N-methylpyridinium is a product of the roasting process itself, resulting in dark roasts that are less likely than lighter ones to cause stomach irritation, according to the research.

Whether the findings will translate to human coffee drinkers remains unclear. The authors hope to conduct tests with human coffee drinkers this year.

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Gene Holds Key to Embryonic Stem Cell Rejuvenation

Discovery could pave way for advances in cancer and aging research, report suggests

Scientists have identified a gene in mice that is a key player in what could essentially be called embryonic stem cells' "immortality."

The finding could have a major impact on research into aging, regenerative medicine and the biology of stem cells and cancer, according to the report published online March 24 in the journal Nature.

Embryonic stem cells can develop into nearly any type of cell in the body and can produce infinite generations of new, fully operational em-

bryonic stem cells (daughter cells). But the mechanism for this rejuvenation has been a mystery, the researchers noted in a news release from the U.S. National Institute on Aging (NIA).

In the new study, researchers at the NIA found that embryonic stem cells in mice express a unique Zscan4 gene that enables them to continuously produce vigorous daughter cells.

According to the study authors, this gene isn't turned on every time an embryonic stem cell replicates; only about 5 percent of embryonic stem cells will have the gene activated at any one point.

Older women need 1-hour workouts to fend off flab

CHICAGO — Rev up the treadmill: Sobering new research spells out just how much exercise women need to keep the flab off as they age — and it's a lot.

At least an hour of moderate activity a day is needed for older women at a healthy weight who aren't dieting. For those who are already over-

weight — even more exercise is called for to avoid gaining weight without eating less, the study results suggest.

"We all have to work at it. If it were easy to be skinny, we would all be skinny," said John Foreyt, a behavioral medicine expert who reviewed the study but wasn't involved in the research.

Brisk walking, leisurely bicycling and golfing are all examples of moderate exercise. But don't throw in the towel if you can't do those things for at least an hour a day. Even a little exercise is good for your health even if it won't make you thin, the researchers said.

Their findings are based on 34,079 middle-aged women followed for about 13 years. Most were not on calorie-cutting diets. The women gained an average of almost 6 pounds during the study.

Those who started out at a healthy weight, with a body mass index less than 25, and who gained little or no weight during the study consistently got the equivalent of about an hour of moderate activity daily. Few women — only 13 percent — were in this category.

Few already overweight women got that amount of exercise, and the results suggest it wasn't enough to stop them from gaining weight.

Tip: Recognizing an Aura

It may precede a migraine

About one in five migraine sufferers experiences an aura that warns of a pending migraine, the National Headache Society says.

Scientists believe aura results when nerves in the brain are activated just before a migraine and become super "excited."

The society says aura may be characterized by:

- * Seeing lights that flash.
- * Seeing lights that appear in a zigzag pattern.
- * Developing blind spots.
- * Having distorted vision.
- * Sensing a tingling or "pins-and-needles" feeling in one arm or leg.

Radisson's Hendrik Webb, named Outstanding Landscaper



grounds at Radisson Aruba Radisson Resort Casino & Spa looking so spectacular, at a special party.

The landscapers were invited on an unexpected outing, and accompanied by the Executive Committee, as they arrived at Hooters, on Palm Beach prepared to have a good time.

Glenn Farro, Director of Human Resources gave an excellent speech celebrating the department's achievements, acknowledging the landscapers tremendous contributions to the resort's tropical feel before the Hoola Hoop contest began!

Frans van Vught, Roque Martinez, Michael Arendsz, Diocelina Zambrano, Johnny



Matos, Edwin Tromp, Alphonse Charles and Jean Alexis all received a token of appreciation and Hendrick Webb was named Outstanding Landscaper.

Situated on 15 acres of Aruba's best beach front, surrounded by lavish grounds which embrace a free form pool and lazy river, the Radisson Aruba Resort Casino & Spa exudes genuine West Indian and Caribbean style & charm, thanks to its spectacular grounds. Kudo to the landscapers!



General Manager Rob Smith took the decision to honor the landscapers for their hard work at maintaining the

Passover Holiday celebrations to begin next week



Ethiopian immigrants taste a Matzah during a Passover dinner rehearsal introducing the holiday customs at the immigrant absorption center in Mevasseret Zion outside Jerusalem.

The Passover festival begins Monday evening. The unleavened bread is a main feature of the week-long Passover holiday, commemorating the biblical exodus of the Israelites from slavery in Egypt.

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Fresh styles and looks, at EQ3 Furniture + Accents



Salinja Cerca, Noord -- EQ3 Furniture + Accents has just received a shipment of new merchandise including area rugs, inspired by nature, graced with geomantic interpretation of leaf and flowers, in both bold and subdued colors.

"Throwing an area rug under a dining room table," says manager Lynn Maduro, "provides an instant facelift, as the color splash and the fresh style dresses up and lights up, the entire room, for a modest amount of money."

EQ3, a Canadian lifestyle concept inspiring the intimate and emotional place we call home, offers globally influenced designs, manufactured innovatively and affordably. The furniture pieces and accessories are inspired by modern living, and fit our many social and individual needs.

EQ3 also offers custom upholstery, and clients are invited to choose from over 100 fabrics and 45 leathers in solid colors and fanciful

prints, in bold hues and subtle neutrals, including the styles of legs and the color to match. From sofas and beds, to pillows and chair seats, clients get to decide what, when and how many, mixing and matching their own individual styles.

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FLORA Home and Garden Decorations

The New Climax Band shakes up Garufa



New Climax Band is best known for its Carnival performances, it played many other musical genres besides Soca & Calypso, delivering an excellent repertory of Latin favorites in general including a hot potpourri of Salsa and Merengue. Garufa Cigar & Cocktail Lounge, on Wilhelminastraat, across El Gaucho Restaurant has been a popular night spot for lovers and friends, since it opened its doors in December of 1998.



On Friday Night Garufa Cocktail & Cigar Lounge was hopping with the music of the New Climax Band enticing the crowd of locals and tourists to dance and have a good time. With Blanca and David at the bar, drinks were flowing, and the club ambiance exciting. While the

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CAR TOONS



PICKLES



CALVIN and HOBBS



MOMMA



CROSSWORD



- ACROSS**
- 1 Strikebreaker
 - 5 Wed in secret
 - 10 Now-grounded fast passenger planes (abbr.)
 - 14 Ticklish doll
 - 15 Everybody Raymond
 - 16 Persistent pain
 - 17 "Who is buried in Grant's ?" (consolation prize question on *You Bet Your Life*)
 - 18 Vote into office
 - 19 "Stop, Dobbins!"
 - 20 Where security traders work
 - 23 Hockey Hall of Famer Bobby
 - 24 "You So Beautiful"
 - 25 Winter, spring, summer, and autumn
 - 27 Battle scene in 1066
 - 32 Stanley Cup org.
 - 33 Circle segment
 - 34 Pigeon's park perch
 - 37 "Famous" cookie maker
 - 40 Prove durable
 - 42 Separated
 - 43 Pub missile
 - 44 Cabbage kin
 - 45 Renter, perhaps
 - 47 Indianapolis's Dome
 - 48 Starfleet Academy graduate (abbr.)
 - 50 U.S. diplomat and national political figure from the 1940s to the 1980s, William Averell
 - 52 Vacation period (2 words)
 - 56 College basketball tournament for those that don't make the NCAA (abbr.)
 - 57 Self-importance
 - 58 One-armed bandit (2 words)
 - 64 M*A*S*H star Alan
 - 66 Movie swashbuckler Flynn
 - 67 Served perfectly
 - 68 Like most colleges and some dorms
 - 69 Seat at the bar
 - 70 Apple center
 - 71 Cargo area on a ship
 - 72 Any of eight English kings
 - 73 Unknown writer (abbr.)
 - DOWN**
 - 1 Tennis units
 - 2 Coagulate
 - 3 Bullets and cannonballs
 - 4 Small lynx
 - 5 Pertaining to first principles or forces of nature
 - 6 *Damn Yankees* vamp
 - 7 Finished
 - 8 Quick little kisses
 - 9 First name in cosmetics
 - 10 Tool with teeth
 - 11 Oater love interest, traditionally
 - 12 Garden sticker
 - 13 Scorches
 - 21 Kristofferson of *Lone Star*
 - 22 Beachcomber's shade
 - 26 Roe-producing fish
 - 27 Bird of prey
 - 28 Academic field
 - 29 Toy store airplane kit, maybe (2 words)
 - 30 Stare open-mouthed
 - 31 Cache
 - 35 Major (constellation with the Big Dipper)
 - 36 Forever and ever
 - 38 Puget sound whale
 - 39 Laurel or Musial
 - 41 Russo of *Get Shorty*
 - 46 "Tears In Heaven" singer Clapton
 - 49 Maritime distress signal
 - 51 Home of Odysseus or Cornell
 - 52 Instruct
 - 53 Inuit domicile
 - 54 Blood's partner
 - 55 Strong point
 - 59 Disney sci-fi film of 1982
 - 60 Othello, the of Venice
 - 61 Desktop image
 - 62 Sleuth Wolfe
 - 63 Genesis serpent's home
 - 65 Put two and two together

A bit of S&M? #65

64 "Now Hear This!"

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| S | P | E | A | K | S | O | U | T | T | E | E | N | S |
| S | T | Y | M | I | E | O | O | H | S | | | | |
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| W | H | I | S | K | P | A | L | E | O | B | O | E | |
| A | I | D | A | R | E | L | A | Y | L | U | K | E | |
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| 71 | | | | | | | 72 | | | | 73 | | |

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Sudoku

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SOLUTION

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| 5 | 8 | 6 | 7 | 9 | 2 | 4 | 1 | 3 |
| 9 | 4 | 7 | 1 | 4 | 7 | 9 | 3 | 6 |
| 6 | 2 | 4 | 7 | 6 | 3 | 2 | 4 | 7 |
| 2 | 7 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 4 | 7 | 9 | 6 |

Complete the grid so that every row and every column contains the numbers 1 through 9
A number is Never repeated in a row or column.
In addition every rectangle must contain the numbers 1 through 9

Finance

How to indelibly print in your customer's mind why they can't afford NOT to do business with you!

by Ken Varga



Hi, I am Ken Varga. I want to share with you some of the ideas, strategies, and principles that allowed me to build 35 businesses during my career.

By earnestly applying the ideas, you will learn how you too can build your business to success, while living an unhurried life, filled with family, friends, fun and a relaxed attitude.

In the last tip, I wrote that direct mail is salesmanship in print.

In this tip, I'm going to give you some examples of how you can use direct mail in your business. Here are some:

1. You can use a full-blown letter, along with a brochure and a response card, to try to sell your product, or to try to get people to send something back.

2. You can send a little post card, basically making a statement of what your product is, giving them a reason to call or come in.

3. You can use a variation of a post card to get their attention. One variation is called a tent post card. One side of the post card makes the proposition; the other side is for them to put their contact, or other pertinent information, and to

tear it off and send it back to you.

4. You can do a self-mailer, which is a single self-contained proposition all in one package.

5. You can do an elaborate, very richly presented, high-profile sales presentation and anything in between.

Before you put together any direct mail piece, you should tape record your best salesperson...the one who is making the most sales.

Why? Because that salesperson is sending the right message to a customer to get them to buy your product.

If you don't incorporate some application of direct mail into your customer-generating activities, you are denying yourself an enormous growth opportunity.

Here is an instance of how I used direct mail to acquire customers.

I was asked by a local community bank, which was a single branch, on the same corner as five other very large banks, to do two things:

1. Help their loan officer get into business owners' offices, so the officer could tell the bank's story, and

2. To help the process result in more new customers.

The first thing I had to do was to differentiate this bank from any of the others.

In other words, I had to determine what I could do to indelibly imprint in a customer's mind the uniqueness of this very small one-branch bank.

After many hours of thinking about it, I came up with an answer.

EU strikes new "Open Skies" aviation deal with U.S.

BRUSSELS, Belgium - European airlines might soon be able to take majority control of U.S. airlines and get access to lucrative U.S. government business in a deal struck yesterday -- but real change will hinge on approval by the U.S. Congress, a far from certain prospect.

The deal in "Open Skies" talks followed a 2007 agreement allowing airlines to fly for the first time between any EU city and any U.S. city, uniting two markets that account for nearly two thirds of global

The answer was to create in the prospect's mind that this bank would do something for them that their current bank wasn't doing.

The first thing I had to do was determine how I would get the loan officer into business persons' offices, where the business persons would invite the officer in with open arms.

I created a direct mail piece that simply stated, in essence:

Dear John,

We would like to set up an appointment to introduce our bank and the benefits of dealing with us.

Since your time is very valuable, we would like to give you a gift to help you get more customers and grow your business.

It is a book entitled, "How to Get Customers to Call, Buy, and Beg for More."

I promise that we will only take up 20 minutes of your time.

Very truly yours,

Obviously, the letter was much longer than this, but the loan officer had a ninety-six percent appointment closing.

Well that's it for this tip. In the next tip, I'll give you a few more examples.

To your success,

Ken Varga

Ph: 888-682-2596; Fax: 888-682-2597

Email: ken@kenvarga.com

Website: www.kenvarga.com

...helping businesses increase customer acquisition by up to 32.7% in as little as 3 to 6 months, and increase customer retention by up to 90%.

aviation.

Current laws in the United States limit foreign ownership of U.S. airlines to 25 percent, but that will be loosened if Congress approves the measures agreed yesterday.

European carriers will also have fresh access to U.S. government business under the "Fly America" program.

In return, U.S. airlines will gain improved market access in the EU and increased share ownership rights from above the current 49.9 percent.

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Bernanke says economy still needs Fed's help

WASHINGTON – A modest U.S. economic recovery still warrants the Federal Reserve's ultra-low interest rate policy, but the central bank stands ready to remove stimulus once the expansion looks solid, Chairman Ben Bernanke said yesterday.

Testifying before the U.S. House of Representatives Financial Services Committee, Bernanke offered a brief overview of the tools the Fed intends to use to reverse the

emergency measures taken to grapple with the worst financial crisis since the Great Depression.

"The economy continues to require the support of accommodative monetary policies," Bernanke told lawmakers. "However, we have been working to ensure that we have the tools to reverse, at the appropriate time, the currently very high degree of monetary stimulus."

Germany, France agree on plan to help Greece

BRUSSELS, Belgium – The leaders of Germany and France clinched agreement on a joint European-IMF financial safety net for debt-stricken Greece just before an EU summit yesterday, the French president's office said.

The accord, which set the stage for a wider deal among euro zone leaders, is intended to reassure nervous financial

markets and arrest a crippling rise in Greece' borrowing costs after a debt crisis that has shaken confidence in the euro.

The European Central Bank also took a key step to support Greece by extending softer rules on collateral so that Athens does not risk a guillotine on its debt at the end of this year.

Green tires could slash oil needs

About seven gallons of oil is required to make each of the roughly one billion tires produced annually, according to the Rubber Manufacturers Association trade group. But the tire industry's dependence on oil could drop dramatically in the next five years.

A new technology being developed in a research partnership between Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company and Ca-

ifornia-based biotechnology company Genencor aims to eliminate the oil currently used to make isoprene, a key tire ingredient, by creating a more environmentally friendly alternative using plants like sugar cane, corn, or switchgrass.

Essentially, the technology uses a genetically modified microorganism to ferment the plant sugars in a way that creates the desired chemical.

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A must see while on Aruba

Experience Aruba's loveliest animals at the Donkey Sanctuary

Denmark's famed Little Mermaid begins China trip



COPENHAGEN, Denmark (AP) – Denmark's famed Little Mermaid statue left her perch in the Copenhagen harbor yesterday and started a journey to the World Expo in Shanghai — the first trip abroad in her 96-year history.

The 5-foot (1.5-meter) landmark, which honors the memory of Danish fairy tale writer Hans Christian Andersen, was lifted by a crane and lowered onto the back of a truck at a ceremony in the Danish capital.

The exact travel itinerary is being kept secret for security

reasons, but the statue is scheduled to be placed as the centerpiece of the Danish pavilion about a week before the World Expo opens May 1.

The temporary move is controversial in Denmark, where some considered it disrespectful to ship a cultural treasure halfway across the globe as a PR tool.

Critics suggested the government should have sent a copy to China — an idea dismissed by Christopher Bo Bramsen, Danish commissioner-general for Expo 2010.



Around the world, tourists do a lot of site-seeing. That's the way they learn about other cultures and their histories. Aruba offers a great sanctuary to lay in the sun and get a tan, but there is much more to this small island. Let's talk about the Donkey Sanctuary Aruba.

After the introduction of the automobile the donkeys were set free. Because many of them lost their habitat, (housing projects all over the island, heavy traffic), mistreatment and ignorance, the Aruban Donkey today is at the edge of extinction.

On April 14, 1997 the foundation "Save our Donkey" was established. They started by gathering 13 donkeys who continuously crossed the main road at Pos Chiquito, endangering the heavy traffic and themselves. Nowadays the Donkey Sanctuary takes care of the donkeys at the sanctuary in Santa Lucia and the other donkeys are at the sanctuary located at the Frenchmen's Pass.

There are still some donkeys living in the wild. They live in groups of 2 to 16, because a donkey can not be alone. They are the largest "wild animals" on Aruba, and are no problem at all, as long as they do not endanger traffic.

The sanctuary provides food, shelter and medical care for these wild animals and helps them get back into nature. Families can visit and learn more about the Aruban donkeys and their habitat.

There is also a donkey shop, where you can buy everything with donkeys on it,



including T-shirts, pens, toys, books, paintings and also Christmas cards, very original and nice to send to family and friends.

You can find the donkey sanctuary in the area of the Ayo Rock Formations. Follow the apple green signs and within 5 minutes you can pet

the donkeys enjoying the hospitality of the sanctuary.

They are open every Saturday and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Monday till Friday from 9 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.

For more information check the website: www.arubadonkey.org.

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Christina Aguilera announces 'Bionic' album release date



LOS ANGELES, California -- After a year spent in the studio, Christina Aguilera will release her new album this summer on June 8, it was announced yesterday.

The album features songs Christina co-wrote with artists including Australian singer songwriter Sia, producer Tricky Stewart — who helped helmed the production desk for Beyonce's "Single Ladies (Put a Ring on It)," indie rockers Le Tigre and Liverpool electro band Ladytron.

Additionally, the album reunites Christina with "Beautiful" songwriter Linda Perry, who penned and produced the ballad "Lift Me Up" for the release.

"Working on this album with so many talented artists and producers that I admire was really an amazing experi-

ence. The artists I chose to work with added so many unique sonic layers to 'Bionic,'" Christina said in a statement. "My intention was to step into their world and what they do combined with my own vision and sound. The results were magic."

Christina added that she hopes the album will surprise her fans.

"I was able to explore and create a fresh, sexy feel using both electronic and organic elements with subject matter ranging from playful to introspective," she continued. "I am so excited for my fans to hear the new sound. It is something I don't think anyone will expect."

It was also announced yesterday that "Bionic's" first single, "Not Myself Tonight," a song produced by Polow Da Don, will debut on ChristinaAguilera.com on March 30 at 6 p.m.

Christina recently wrapped production on her first feature film, "Burlesque," which also stars Oscar winner Cher, Stanley Tucci and Kristen Bell. Due out this fall, "Burlesque" is about a big-voiced, but small town girl, who moves to Los Angeles and lands a job at the Burlesque Lounge where she deals with jealousy.

US geneticist wins \$1.5 million religion prize

WASHINGTON (AP) - A one-time priest who later became an evolutionary geneticist and molecular biologist and helped scientifically refute creationism with his research was honored yesterday with one of the world's top religion prizes.

Francisco J. Ayala, 76, a U.S. citizen originally from Spain, will receive the 2010 Templeton Prize, valued at \$1.53 million, the John Templeton Foundation announced at the National Academy of Sciences.

It is the largest monetary award given each year to an individual and honors someone who made exceptional contributions to affirm spirituality. Officials increase the value each year to exceed the Nobel Prize.

"I see religion and science as two of the pillars on which American society rests," Ayala said, saying the United States is one of the world's most religious countries. "We have these two pillars not talking, not seeing they can reinforce each other."

Ayala is a notable choice because he opposes the entanglement of science and religion. The former Dominican priest is adamant that science and religion do not contradict each other.

"If they are properly understood, they cannot be in contradiction because science and religion concern different matters, and each is essential to human understanding," he said in remarks prepared for the acceptance ceremony.

Ayala is a top professor of biological sciences at the University of California, Irvine.

His pioneering genetic research led to revelations that could help develop cures for malaria and other diseases.

In January, he co-authored a paper that established gorillas and chimps may serve as reservoirs for parasites that cause human malaria, showing that even if a vaccine is developed, humans will be vulnerable to re-infection.

Ayala has long worked to foster dialogue between religion and science and said tension between the fields has subsided over time.

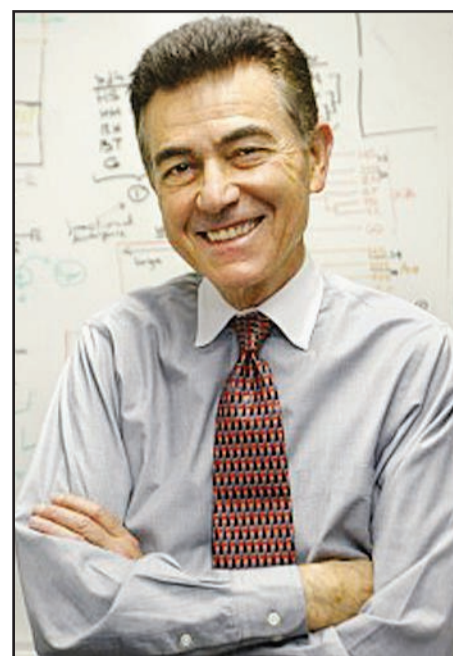
In 1981, Ayala was an expert witness in a U.S. federal court challenge that helped overturn an Arkansas law mandating the teaching of creationism alongside evolution. Three years later, the National Academy of Sciences asked Ayala to serve as principal author of "Science, Evolution and Creationism," which categorically refuted creationism and intelligent design.

He has said efforts to block religious intrusion into science equate with "the survival of rationality in this country."

"The Bible is not a textbook about science," he said. "It's not introductory astronomy."

Ayala said religion brings hope and meaning to people, and they know God exists as a matter of faith. Such questions are beyond the realm of science, he said.

As for his personal reli-



Francisco J. Ayala

gious beliefs, Ayala said they have evolved, but he prefers to keep them private.

The foundation has honored more traditional religious figures in the past, including Billy Graham, as well as scientists and philosophers.

Ayala is scheduled to receive the prize May 5 in a private ceremony at London's Buckingham Palace. He plans to give the prize money to charity, likely for education.

John M. Templeton, president of the Pennsylvania-based foundation named for his late father, said Ayala was selected for his breadth and depth of analysis focused on discovery.

"Ayala's clear voice in matters of science and faith," he said, "echoes the foundation's belief that evolution of the mind and truly open-minded inquiry can lead to real spiritual progress in the world."

True love overcomes any distance, Croatian storks show

ZAGREB, Croatia – A male stork proved once again that distance is no bar to true love as it flew thousands of kilometers back to its handicapped mate in a Croatian village, local media said yesterday.

This is the fifth year in a row that the stork, named Rodan, has made the epic journey of some 13,000 kilometers (8,060 miles) from South Africa to the village of Brodski Varos, in eastern Croatia, the Jutarnji List daily reported.

"This year he came a bit earlier," Stjepan Vokic, who cares for the female stork, named Malena, unable to fly since hunters shot through its wing, told the paper.

Rodan looked rather exhausted, Vokic added.

Every year the couple has raised a brood of chicks which Rodan has taught to fly since Malena cannot, Vokic said. This year is expected to be no different.

In August, Rodan and the young will start to prepare for their long journey to winter in South Africa while Malena remains in Brodski Varos until the return of its mate in the spring.



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Serena Williams honored as 2009 top player



(L-R) Venus Williams, and Serena Williams pose with their awards during the SEWTA Awards Ceremony

KEY BISCAIYNE, Fla. (AP) — World No. 1 Serena Williams won the 2009 WTA Tour Player of the Year award and also took the Doubles Team of the year honors with sister Venus at a ceremony held at the Sony Ericsson Open on Wednesday.

Serena Williams, wearing high heels despite a knee injury, was all smiles when picking up her award. She won the Australian Open and Wimbledon in 2009, was a semifinalist at the U.S. Open and a quarterfinalist at the French Open.

The Williams sisters won the 2009 Australian Open, Wimbledon, and U.S. Open doubles titles as well as the doubles crown at Stanford.

“It’s exciting because I don’t think we’ve won the Doubles Team of the Year award before,” Serena Williams told The Associated Press. “I won the daily double today and that was cool.”

U.S. Open champion Kim Clijsters captured the Comeback Player of the Year and Karen Krantzcke Sportsmanship Award. This marked the seventh time in Clijsters career she won the sportsmanship award.

American teen Melanie Oudin, who had a breakthrough 2009 season in reaching the fourth round at Wimbledon and quarterfinals at the U.S. Open, was honored as the Newcomer of the Year. Yanina Wickmayer of Belgium, who broke into the top 20 last year, won the Most Improved Player award.

Naturalized American Liezel Huber won The Player Service Award for the fourth time in her career. Among the causes Huber’s raised money for are Hurricane Katrina victims and “Locks of Love,” a nonprofit organization that provides hairpieces to financially disadvantaged children suffering from medical hair loss.

NHL Standings

| EASTERN CONF. | | | |
|------------------|----|----|-----|
| Atlantic | W | L | Pts |
| Pittsburgh | 42 | 25 | 91 |
| New Jersey | 43 | 25 | 90 |
| Philadelphia | 37 | 31 | 79 |
| NY Rangers | 32 | 32 | 73 |
| NY Islanders | 29 | 34 | 68 |
| Northeast | | | |
| Buffalo | 40 | 22 | 90 |
| Ottawa | 39 | 30 | 83 |
| Montreal | 36 | 30 | 80 |
| Boston | 33 | 27 | 78 |
| Toronto | 26 | 35 | 64 |
| Southeast | | | |
| y-Washington | 49 | 14 | 108 |
| Atlanta | 32 | 30 | 75 |
| Florida | 30 | 31 | 71 |
| Tampa Bay | 29 | 32 | 70 |
| Carolina | 30 | 34 | 69 |

| WESTERN CONF. | | | |
|------------------|----|----|-----|
| Central | W | L | Pts |
| Chicago | 46 | 19 | 99 |
| Nashville | 42 | 27 | 89 |
| Detroit | 37 | 23 | 87 |
| St. Louis | 34 | 30 | 77 |
| Columbus | 29 | 32 | 70 |
| Northwest | | | |
| Vancouver | 45 | 25 | 94 |
| Colorado | 41 | 25 | 89 |
| Calgary | 37 | 27 | 83 |
| Minnesota | 35 | 32 | 76 |
| Edmonton | 24 | 42 | 55 |
| Pacific | | | |
| San Jose | 44 | 19 | 98 |
| Phoenix | 46 | 23 | 97 |
| Los Angeles | 42 | 24 | 90 |
| Dallas | 32 | 27 | 78 |
| Anaheim | 34 | 31 | 76 |

NBA Standings

| EASTERN CONF. | | | | | |
|------------------|----|----|------|------|--|
| Atlantic | W | L | Pct | GB | |
| x-Boston | 46 | 25 | .648 | -- | |
| Toronto | 35 | 35 | .500 | 10.5 | |
| N.York | 26 | 45 | .366 | 20.0 | |
| Phil | 25 | 47 | .347 | 21.5 | |
| N.Jersey | 8 | 63 | .113 | 38.0 | |
| Central | | | | | |
| y-Cleveland | 57 | 15 | .792 | -- | |
| Milwaukee | 39 | 31 | .557 | 17.0 | |
| Chicago | 33 | 37 | .471 | 23.0 | |
| Indiana | 26 | 46 | .361 | 31.0 | |
| Detroit | 23 | 48 | .324 | 33.5 | |
| Southeast | | | | | |
| x-Orlando | 50 | 22 | .694 | -- | |
| x-Atlanta | 46 | 25 | .648 | 3.5 | |
| Charlotte | 37 | 34 | .521 | 12.5 | |
| Miami | 37 | 34 | .521 | 12.5 | |
| Wash. | 21 | 49 | .300 | 28.0 | |

| WESTERN CONF. | | | | | |
|------------------|----|----|------|------|--|
| Southwest | W | L | Pct | GB | |
| Dallas | 47 | 24 | .662 | -- | |
| San Ant. | 42 | 28 | .600 | 4.5 | |
| Memphis | 38 | 34 | .528 | 9.5 | |
| Houston | 36 | 34 | .514 | 10.5 | |
| N.Orleans | 34 | 39 | .466 | 14.0 | |
| Northwest | | | | | |
| Denver | 47 | 25 | .653 | -- | |
| Utah | 47 | 25 | .653 | -- | |
| Okl. City | 43 | 27 | .614 | 3.0 | |
| Portland | 42 | 29 | .592 | 4.5 | |
| Minn. | 14 | 58 | .194 | 33.0 | |
| Pacific | | | | | |
| x-LA Lakers | 53 | 18 | .746 | -- | |
| Phoenix | 45 | 26 | .634 | 8.0 | |
| LA Clippers | 26 | 45 | .366 | 27.0 | |
| Sacra. | 24 | 48 | .333 | 29.5 | |
| Golden St. | 20 | 51 | .282 | 33.0 | |

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| AT RENAISSANCE - ORANJESTAD | | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|------------|------------------|
| PG-13 | REMEMBER ME | | |
| | daily: | 4:45 | 7:15 9:45 |
| | matinee: | 2:00 | late show: 12:15 |
| PG-13 | THE BOUNTY HUNTER | | |
| | daily: | 5:45 | 8:15 |
| | matinee: | 12:30 3:15 | late show: 11:00 |
| R | EDGE OF DARKNESS | | |
| | daily: | 4:30 | 7:00 9:30 |
| | matinee: | 1:45 | late show: 12:00 |
| PG | BROOKLYN'S FINEST | | |
| | daily: | 6:00 | 8:45 |
| | matinee: | 12:00 3:00 | late show: 11:30 |
| PG | VALENTINE'S DAY | | |
| | daily: | 6:30 | 9:00 |
| | matinee: | 12:45 3:45 | late show: 11:45 |
| PG | ALICE IN WONDERLAND | | |
| | daily: | 6:00 | 8:30 |
| | matinee: | 1:00 3:30 | late show: 11:00 |
| AT PASEO HERENCIA | | | |
| PG | HOW TO TRAIN YOUR DRAGON | | |
| | daily: | 4:00 | 6:15 8:30 |
| NEW | matinee: | 1:25 | late show: 11:00 |
| PG | DIARY OF A WIMPY KID | | |
| | daily: | 4:30 | 6:45 |
| | matinee: | 12:00 2:15 | late show: |
| R | CASE 39 | | |
| | daily: | 5:45 | 8:15 |
| | matinee: | 12:15 3:00 | late show: 11:00 |
| PG-13 | OUR FAMILY WEDDING | | |
| | daily: | 5:30 | 7:45 9:45 |
| | matinee: | 12:45 3:00 | late show: 12:00 |
| R | FROM PARIS WITH LOVE | | |
| | daily: | 9:00 | |
| | matinee: | | late show: 11:30 |
| R | GREEN ZONE | | |
| | daily: | 6:30 | 9:00 |
| | matinee: | 1:00 3:45 | late show: 11:30 |
| R | SHUTTER ISLAND | | |
| | daily: | 5:45 | 8:45 |
| | matinee: | 2:45 | late show: 11:45 |

HOW TO TRAIN YOUR DRAGON (Action/Adv.): A Viking teenager named Hiccup lives on the island of Berk, where fighting dragons is a way of life. The teen's smarts and offbeat sense of humor don't sit too well with his tribe or its chief... who just happens to be Hiccup's father. However, when Hiccup is included in Dragon Training with the other Viking teens, he sees his chance to prove he has what it takes to be a fighter.

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On the road to 2010 FIFA World Cup South Africa

Adriano questioned by police after media report



RIO DE JANEIRO -- Brazil striker Adriano has been questioned by police about alleged ties to drug traffickers.

A prosecutor had ordered the questioning after a news-

Brazil legend Pele: Barcelona's Lionel Messi is a great player but needs Argentina improvement

Brazilian footballing legend Pele has commented on Lionel Messi's extraordinary form with his club, but expressed his doubts with respect to Messi's performances with the Albiceleste.

"Messi is a great player," said Pele in comments reported by Marca. "He is playing marvellously at Barcelona, but when he plays with his national team he does not do as well, perhaps because Argentina do not

paper reported that Adriano purchased two motorcycles and registered one of them in the name of the mother of a "known drug trafficker."

Adriano did not talk to the media after being questioned on Thursday, but one of his lawyers said everything was clarified.

Adriano was raised at a Rio de Janeiro slum and admits he likes to remain close to his community, but has always denied any type of wrongdoing.

Police didn't immediately make any comments about Adriano's questioning.

have the same sort of team as Barcelona, where he has been playing for quite some time."

Pele also gave brief comments about Real Madrid's Cristiano Ronaldo, who he spoke of being a "marvellous figure". Of the players from his home country, Pele highlighted Manchester City's Santos loan star Robinho, who "has improved a lot and has the opportunity to be one of the greatest players at the World Cup".

Van Persie close to Arsenal return

LONDON - Arsenal's title challenge is set to be boosted by Dutch striker Robin van Persie, with manager Arsene Wenger expecting him back from an ankle ligament injury in two to three weeks.

Van Persie, who was in scintillating form before being injured on international duty against Italy in November, is back in training which is good news for his club and his hopes of being fit for the

World Cup in South Africa in June.

"He is expected to return but don't expect miracles when a guy has been out for such a long time," Wenger said on Thursday.

"But we are happy to have him back and he is physically ... in good shape. We have just to get him back to full team fitness -- that will take two to three weeks maximum.

FIFA brings hope to poor children through World



ALEXANDRA, South Africa -Sello Mahlangu "loves, lives and breathes football" and says it has helped him keep out of trouble on the mean streets of one of South Africa's poorest townships. Mahlangu, 18, is one of more than 200 disadvantaged children from all over the world who will play in a soccer festival parallel to the World Cup in Johannesburg's sprawling Alexandra township, often associated with violence and grinding poverty. Through the July 4-10 "Football for Hope" festival, soccer's ruling body, in partnership with the global NGO streetfootballworld, will use the month-long World Cup in South Africa to promote projects helping underprivileged children overcome social problems.

Although three months away from kick-off, the festival, FIFA's flagship social project, has already touched the lives of the youngsters.

"There are many young people who are doing bad things here in Alexandra and I thank God that I am not part of them. Without football I think I would have been doing something like crime,"

said Mahlangu after the ceremonial launch of the festival on Thursday.

Mahlangu, a member of the local project Play Soccer, is one of the eight youngsters who will form Team Alexandra, competing in the festival with 31 other international teams.

Streetfootballworld Managing Director Jurgen Griesbeck said the teams were selected for their commitment to overcoming social problems from homelessness in London and landmines in Cambodia, to AIDS education in South Africa and integration of refugees in Australia.

"We are talking here about role models, we are talking about people who are champions in their communities, people who are our future," said Griesbeck.

FIFA is keen to underline that football is more than huge revenues and millionaire players.

"This World Cup is not only about the big stars coming to South Africa.. (the festival) will represent another World Cup of hope, change and opportunities," said the tournament's chief local organiser, Danny Jordaan.

Ivory Coast Still Searching For New Coach

Fresh off a trip to Europe in search of a coach, Ivory Coast FA President Jacques Anoma yesterday told reporters in Abidjan that he would take his own time to get a new tactician for the national team.

He appeared unperturbed by the amount of days left until the World Cup, where one of Africa's best teams - the Elephants - will be flying their national colours.

"Stop bothering yourselves about a new coach and the little time left for the World Cup," Anoma said.

"I'm more in haste to get a new coach, but I'm being careful," he said.

The names of some of Europe's top coaches including Guus Hiddink and Philippe Troussier have floated across the media as possible candidates for the job but no contracts were ever signed and confirmed by the FA.

"I will choose a coach who will represent national interest," Anoma stated. "Amongst those I've met, I'll make an independent choice and announce the new coach for the Elephants in the days to come," he said.

But Anoma has been responding with "days to come" since early this month, and that day hasn't come. The whole nation is waiting and yearning to see the person who will be steering the dwindling soccer destiny of the West African nation. Sven-Goran Eriksson is strongly rumoured to be Ivory Coast's new coach, but Anoma did not confirm it at the news conference.

March Madness continues: Today's matchups



MIDWEST REGIONAL At St. Louis

No. 5 Michigan St. vs. No. 9 Northern Iowa

Michigan State heads into the round of 16 with several injuries. Kalin Lucas, the Big Ten player of the year in 2008-09, ruptured an Achilles' tendon during the second-round win over Maryland. Chris Allen, the team's best 3-point shooter, has been limited because of an injured right foot and forward Delvon Roe has been bothered by a bad right knee. The first of the replacements did just fine as Korie Lucious stepped in for Lucas and hit the game-winning 3-pointer at the buzzer against Maryland to send the Spartans on to this round for the third straight year. Coach Tom Izzo's .750 winning percentage in the tournament ranks third among active coaches.

Ali Farokhmanesh and Jordan Eglseider weren't known outside Northern Iowa until last week's wins over UNLV and overall top seed Kansas. Farokhmanesh hit the traditional game-winning 3-pointer in the first game and buried a 3 few would have taken to give the Panthers a four-point lead over the Jayhawks in the final minute. He was 9 of 19 from 3-point range in the first two rounds and averaged 16.5 points. The 7-foot Eglseider averaged 11.5 points and 7.5 rebounds in the two games that have made Northern Iowa a team everybody

knows.

Since Izzo had five days to find a way to convince his team the injuries won't affect their play on defense or how they rebound, look for the Spartans to shut down the Panthers' run, 67-58.

No. 2 Ohio St. vs. No. 6 Tennessee

Ohio State won its first game despite Evan Turner having an off game. The Buckeyes looked like a No. 2 seed when Turner returned to form with 24 points, nine rebounds and nine assists against Georgia Tech. They are more than just Turner, with sharpshooter Jon Diebler and veteran forward David Lighty both making big contributions in their nine-game winning streak.

Tennessee held off San Diego State in the opening round, then looked more like itself in taking care of Ohio University, the team that upset Georgetown. The Volunteers shot 56.7 percent from the field and outrebounded the Bobcats 41-33 with Wayne Chism and Brian Williams grabbing 12 each. The one thing Tennessee has to do is cut down on turnovers—it had 16 against Ohio.

The Buckeyes, and more specifically Turner, have found a way to handle what's thrown at them. That's what happens here in Ohio State's 78-76 victory.

SOUTH REGIONAL

At Houston

No. 1 Duke vs. No. 4 Pur-

due

While everyone has been concentrating on Duke's 3 Ss—Kyle Singler, Jon Scheyer and Nolan Smith—the Blue Devils have been playing their best defense of the season. They have held 10 of their last 13 opponents—including the two in the NCAA tournament—to 61 points or less. They out-rebound teams by six per game and are no longer just a perimeter team with no inside presence.

Purdue was supposed to be out of this tournament a couple of rounds ago. The Boilermakers weren't given much of a chance to advance without second-leading scorer and rebounder Robbie

Hummel, who injured his knee and is out for the season. Everyone else has stepped up to fill the void, especially 6-3 Chris Kramer, the Big Ten's two-time defensive player of the year who has lived up to his mantle of emotional leader in Hummel's absence.

Duke is just too good on the defensive end. Blue Devils win 73-58.

No. 3 Baylor vs. No. 10 Saint Mary's

Baylor boasts one of the country's best backcourts in LaceDarius Dunn (19.4 points per game) and Tweety Carter (15.1), and the two are complemented by forward Ekpe Udoh, who almost averages a double-double (13.9 points, 9.7 rebounds). The Bears liked to score during the Big 12 season, but they have taken things down a

notch in the NCAA tournament, mostly because of a combined 13-of-40 effort from 3-point range.

Omar Samhan has moved up the big man charts with a bullet since the start of the NCAA tournament. A solid player all season for Saint Mary's, the 6-11 Samhan has turned it on in the post against Richmond and Villanova, averaging 30.5 points and 9.5 rebounds while shooting 75 percent (24 of 32) from the field. Samhan's presence inside has allowed the Gaels to shoot 41.1 percent from 3-point range, led by Mickey McConnell's 51.7 percent.

Samhan will muddle the middle and the Gaels are good enough around him to advance with a 75-68 victory.

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